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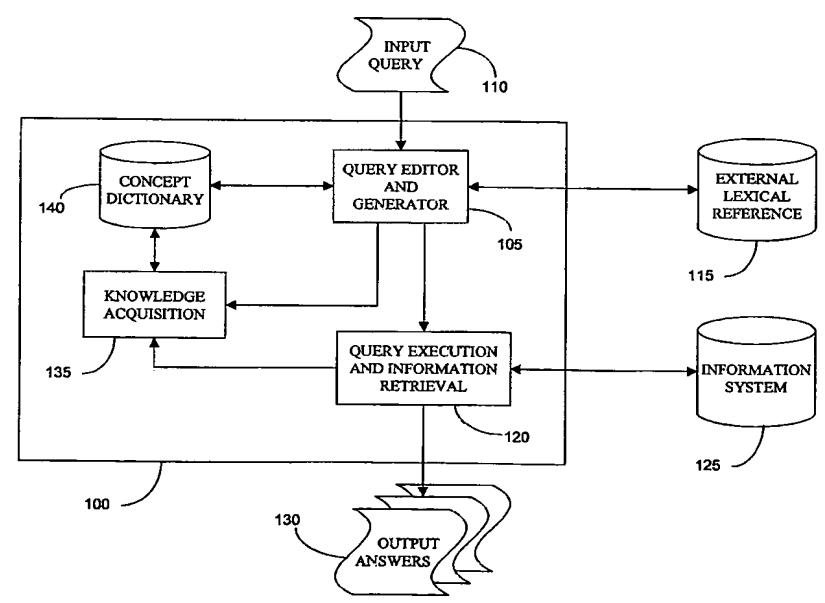
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(54) Title: CONCEPT DICTIONARY BASED INFORMATION RETRIEVAL



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus are provided for generating and updating a concept dictionary (140) in respect of an information system (125) and for using that concept dictionary to assist in selecting queries and query terms for use in interrogating that information system (125). A lexical reference source (115) is first used to generate queries semantically related to a query (110) entered by a user, and the answers returned for each query are analysed using a fuzzy processing technique (135) to determine semantic relationships between the queries. The queries and the determined relationships are recorded in a concept dictionary (140) for subsequent use.

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